

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

S E C R E T COLOMBO 000623

SIPDIS

NOFORN

DEPARTMENT FOR SA, SA/INS, S/CT, NEA, NEA/NGA,
DS/DSS/ITA; NSC FOR E. MILLARD

NEW DELHI FOR POL/REGIONAL AFFAIRS

LONDON FOR POL/RIEDEL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04-10-13

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PINS](#) [PTER](#) [ASEC](#) [CE](#) [IZ](#)

SUBJECT: Iraqi Charge phones Ambassador, saying he is
calling from embassy of "liberated Iraq"; Asks to meet

(U) Classified by Ambassador E. Ashley Wills.

Reasons 1.5 (B,D).

[11.](#) (U) This message contains an Action Request. Please
see Para 3.

[12.](#) (S/NF) The Ambassador received a phone call from
Iraqi Charge Wajdi Mardan Abbas this morning (April 10).
Abbas said he was calling from the "embassy of liberated
Iraq" and wanted to express his deep appreciation to the
U.S. for its role in Iraq. In doing this, he kept
repeating "thank you, thank you, thank you." Abbas
added that he wanted to come and meet the Ambassador as
soon as possible in order to discuss a "letter" sent by
a "friend" to the U.S. embassy. Abbas did not go into
the matter further. The Ambassador was non-committal in
his response.

[13.](#) (S/NF) ACTION REQUEST: Mission has no information
about the letter mentioned by Abbas. From what we
understand, Abbas is an Iraqi intelligence operative.
Clearly, he is in bail out mode given the recent events
in Baghdad. GSL contacts have also told us that he may
have recently requested political asylum in Sri Lanka,
but this is not confirmed. We also recently heard that
he had let his household staff go. We would appreciate
it if Washington could get back to us ASAP with
instructions on how to handle Abbas and his request to
meet. END ACTION REQUEST.

[14.](#) (U) Minimize considered.

WILLS